

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the amount of mercury affixed to a sorbent, the method comprising:

providing an amount of sorbent, at least a portion of the amount of sorbent comprising particulates having mercury compounds affixed to the particulates; [[and]]

depositing the amount of sorbent on a conveyor floor comprising a metal media having openings; and

passing ~~exposing the amount of sorbent to~~ heated flowing air through the openings until the sorbent reaches a temperature of at least 700°F and mercury compounds are liberated from at least some of the particulates.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
measuring an in process temperature of the sorbent when the sorbent is exposed to the heated flowing air;

removing at least a portion of the sorbent being exposed to the heated flowing air when the measured in process temperature reaches at least 700°F [[[372°C]]];

thereafter providing a second amount of sorbent, at least a portion of the second amount of sorbent comprising particulates having mercury affixed to the particulates;
and

thereafter maintaining the sorbent in the heated flowing air until the sorbent reaches a temperature of at least 700°F [[[372°C]]].

4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein:
the openings are 10 microns or less.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein:
the flowing air is passed through the openings at greater than 0 to about 10 cubic
feet ~~(0.28 cubic meters)~~ per minute.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sorbent is activated
carbon.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein:
the amount of activated carbon is maintained in the heated flowing air until the
activated carbon reaches a temperature in the range of 700°F ~~[[(372°C)]]~~ to 1000°F
~~[[(538°C)]]~~.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
reusing the sorbent in a mercury reduction process after mercury compounds are
liberated from at least some of the particulates.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
preheating the amount of sorbent to a temperature of at least 300°F ~~[[148°C]]~~
before exposing the amount of sorbent to the flowing air.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the amount of mercury
adsorbed to activated carbon, the method comprising:
providing an amount of activated carbon, at least a portion of the activated
carbon having adsorbed mercury compounds; ~~[[and]]~~
depositing the amount of activated carbon on a conveyor floor comprising a
metal media having openings; and
passing exposing the activated carbon to heated flowing air through the openings
until the activated carbon reaches a temperature of at least 700°F ~~[[372°C]]~~.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein:
the openings are 10 microns or less.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein:
the flowing air is passed through the openings at greater than 0 to about 10 cubic
feet ~~(0.28 cubic meters)~~ per minute.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein:

the amount of activated carbon is maintained in the heated flowing air until the activated carbon reaches a temperature in the range of 700°F ~~[(372°C)]~~ to 1000°F ~~[(538°C)]~~.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

reusing the activated carbon in a mercury reduction process after mercury compounds are liberated from at least some of the activated carbon.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:

preheating the amount of activated carbon to a temperature of at least 300°F ~~[(148°C)]~~ before exposing the amount of activated carbon to the flowing air.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the amount of mercury in an amount of particulate matter including fly ash and activated carbon, the method comprising:

providing an amount of particulate matter including fly ash and activated carbon, at least a portion of the fly ash or activated carbon having adsorbed mercury compounds; ~~[[and]]~~

depositing the amount of particulate matter on a conveyor floor comprising a metal media having openings; and

~~passing~~ ~~exposing the amount of particulate matter to~~ heated flowing air ~~through~~
~~the openings~~ until ~~the particulate matter reaches a temperature of at least 700°F and~~
mercury compounds are liberated from at least some of the particulate matter.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein:

the particulate matter is exposed to heated flowing air until the particulate matter
reaches a temperature in the range of 700°F ~~[[(372°C)]]~~ to 1000°F ~~[[(538°C)]]~~.